

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05822 010848Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----020502 010958Z /10

R 301154Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3340  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T TEHRAN 5822

EXDIS

TAGS: SO US SA PFOR MASS EAID  
SUBJ: PRES CARTER'S MEETING WITH THE SOMALI AMB

1. DURING INTRODUCTORY PROTOCOL VISITS WHICH I HAVE BEEN MAKING WITH IRANIAN OFFICIALS, ONE CONSTANTLY RECURRING THEME HAS BEEN THEIR CONCERN WITH EVENTS IN HORN OF AFRICA. MOST COMPLETE SYNOPSIS OF IRANIAN VIEWS THIS SUBJECT WAS SURVEY WHICH I RECEIVED JUNE 30 FROM AMB ABBAS NAYERI, HEAD OF ASIAN AFRICAN DEPT OF FONMINISTRY. ALTHOUGH IT MAY CONTAIN NOTHING NEW, I SUMMARIZE IT AS MOST CURRENT NEW IRANIAN THINKING.

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2. NAYERI SAID IRAN HAS NOT REPEAT NOT YET DECIDED EXACTLY WHAT TO DO WITH RESPECT SOMALIA. WHILE THEY SYMPATHIZED WITH SOMALIA DESIRE DISENGAGE FROM TOTAL DEPENDENCE ON SOVIETS, THEY WERE NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR ON SOMALI MOTIVES BEYOND THAT POINT. FOR EXAMPLE, THEY WERE CONCERNED THAT THE TYPE OF WEAPONS DESIRED (SMALL ARMS) MIGHT BE USED

AGAINST KENYA OR IN OGADEN.

3. MOREOVER, IRANIANS REMAINED CONFUSED BY SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA. THE PURPOSES OF THE VARIOUS CONTESTANTS THERE WAS OBSCURE, AS WAS THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE SOMALI CAUSE. THEY FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW ISRAEL AND LIBYA, FOR EXAMPLE, COULD BOTH APPEAR TO BE SUPPORTING THE SAME GROUP. THIS ADDED MORE UNCERTAINTIES TO THE SOMALI PICTURE.

4. NAYERI SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT FRANCE AND ITALY HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO PROVIDE ARMS TO SOMALIA WITH SAUDI FINANCIAL SUPPORT. HE WAS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR ABOUT SAUDI INTENTIONS. HE SAID PRES SIAD HAD ABORTED A TRIP TO RIYADH TWO DAYS AGO BECAUSE OF THE ILLNESS OF KHALID.

5. I ASKED WHETHER IRAN WAS COORDINATING ITS VIEWS AND ACTIONS ON SOMALIA WITH THE SAUDIS. NAYERI'S NEGATIVE REPLY EMBODIED SOME ELEMENT OF WONDER THAT I SHOULD EVEN HAVE THOUGHT OF SUCH A QUESTION. AS AN ASIDE, HE SAID THAT THE SAUDIS HAD SUCH A PHOBIA OF COMMUNISM THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS ANTI-COMMUNIST TACTICS WITH THEM IN OBJECTIVE TERMS. HE SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT HE THOUGHT THEY WERE BEING BILKED IN ADEN BY A GROUP OF SLICK CON-ARTISTS WHO PRETENDED GREATER ATTACHMENT TO MOSCOW THAN THEY REALLY FELT. IN THIS WAY, THEY RAISED THE ANTE FOR BLACK BAG OPERATORS. HE HASTENED TO ADD THAT THIS WAS HIS PERSONAL SECRET

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OPINION AND NOT THAT OF HIS GOVT (I.E. THE SHAH).

6. FINALLY, NAYERI ASKED TO BE KEPT INFORMED ABOUT US VIEWS ON SOMALIA AND SAID THEY WOULD HAVE A GREAT BEARING ON WHATEVER ACTION IRAN DECIDES TO TAKE. I SAID I WOULD SEEK GUIDANCE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY CONSIDERED VIEWS THAT DEPT MAY WISH TO PASS TO GOI. STATE 152186 ARRIVED AFTER THIS CABLE WAS DRAFTED. IS DEPT PREPARED PASS SUBSTANCE TO GOI? SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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